Biosketch

Torok, Tamas

Education/Training

INSTITUTION and LOCATION	DEGREE	YEAR	FIELD OF STUDY
Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany	B.S.	1969	Food sciences
Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany	M.S.	1971	Food sciences
University of Szeged, Hungary	Ph.D	1982	Microbiology
Technical University, Budapest, Hungary	2nd M.S.	1984	Bioengineering

Research and Professional Experience

1997 - present Staff scientist, Life Sciences Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
1995 -1997 Scientist, Life Sciences Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
1992 - 1995 Senior research associate, Life Sciences Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
1988 - 1992 Visiting scientist, USDA Western Regional Research Center, Albany, CA
1974 - 1988 Senior staff scientist, Department of Microbiology, University of Horticulture and Food Sciences, Budapest, Hungary
1971 - 1974 Microbiologist, Center for Food Control and Analysis, Budapest, Hungary

Awards, Memberships, and Volunteering

"Excellence in Technology Transfer Award" - Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (2007)
"Outstanding Mentor Award" - US Department of Energy (2004)
"Outstanding Performance Award" - Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (1996)

American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Industrial Microbiology and Biotechnology
American Association for the Advancement of Science
US Federation for Culture Collections

Volunteer for Citizens Development Corps (CDC) [assignment in Kosovo in 2002]

Selected Publications and Abstracts

Torok, T., Mortimer, R.K., Romano, P., Suzzi, G., and Polsinelli, M. 1996. Quest for wine yeasts - An old story revisited. J. Ind. Microbiol. 17:303-313.

Repin, V.E., **Torok, T.**, and Kuzmin, M.I. 2001. The biodiversity of microorganisms from bottom sediments of Lake Baikal by evidence from deep boreholes. Russian Geol. Geophys., 42:231-234.

Repin, V., **Torok, T.,** Degtyarev, S., Abdurashitov, M., Puchkova, L., Andreeva, I., Pechurkina, N., Hunter-Cevera, J. C., Geletij, V., and Kuzmin, M.I. 2001. Microbiological and biotechnological investigations of sub-bottom sediments of Lake Baikal and samples of closely located hot springs (Zmeiniy, Goryachenskij). Geology and Geophysics (Russia) 42:235-240.

Andreeva, L.S., Repina, M.V., Oreshkova, S.F., Ryabchikova, E.I., Puchkova, L.I., Blinova, N.N., Repina, M.V., Pechurkina, N.I., **Torok**, **T.**, and Repin, V.E. 2005. Genomic and phenotypic analysis of microorganisms isolated from the sediments of Lake Baikal. Microbiology74:709-714.

Andreeva, L.S., Pechurkina, N.I., Morozova, O.V., Ryabchikova, E.I., Belikov, S.I., Puchkova, L.I., Emelyanova, E.K., **Torok**, **T.**, and Repin, V.E. 2007. *Roseomonas baikalica* sp. nov., a new bacterial species isolated from core samples collected by deep-hole drilling at the bottom of Lake Baikal. Microbiology 76:1-8.

Altier, D. J., Dahlbacka, G., Ellenskaya,I., Herrmann, R., Hunter-Cevera, J., McCutchen, B. F., Presnail, J. K., Rice, J. A., Schepers, E., Simmons, C. R., **Torok, T.,** and Yalpani, N. 2007. Novel biologically active natural products by newly isolated environmental microorganisms. United States of America

Patent No. 7,306,946

Baker, S.E., Thykaer, J., Adney, W.S., Brettin, T.S., Brockman, F.J., D'Haeseleer, P., Martinez, A.D., Miller, R.M., Rokhsar, D.S., Schadt, C.W., **Torok, T.,** Tuskan, G., Bennett, J., Berka, R.M., Briggs, S.P., heitman, J., Taylor, J., Gillian-Turgeon, B., Werner-Washburne, M., and Himmel, M.E. 2008. Fungal genome sequencing and bioenergy. Fungal Biol.Rev., 30:1-5.

Synergistic Activities

1997 - present Contributed to or led a variety of projects with regard to microbial diversity, including fate and transport of DNAPLs in fractured rocks; ancient microorganisms isolated from amber; the use of spore protein signature information for the detection of *Bacillus anthracis*; high-throughput screening of plant and microbial extracts for a new class of antibiotics; development of methods for DNA extraction of bacterial endospores; isolation of unique microorganisms and characterization of extremophile microbial communities from Lake Baikal and Kamchatka in Siberia, Russia, extremely high radiation surviving filamentous fungi from the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone; ultrahigh-throughput genotyping of *Salmonella typhi* and *Yersiniai pestis*; microbial diversity-based novel crop protection and other biotech products; and the DOE-GTL project on protein complexes characterization (PCAP)

Advised undergraduate students (Berkeley Biotechnology Education, Inc. co-op students, UC Berkeley work-study students) and mentored students and exchange faculty underrepresented in science (Bioremediation Education, Science, and Technology program [DoD], Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internship program [DOE], Faculty and Student Training program [DOE], and Mickey Leland Fellow program [DOE])

2000 – present Part-time instructor of microbiology and immunology (California State University East Bay); Adjunct faculty at Cañada College in Redwood City, CA; Chair, Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) at LBNL

1995 – 2000 Associate Administrator, Center for Environmental Biotechnology, LBNL

1996 – present Member of the Editorial Board for the *Journal of Industrial Microbiology and Biotechnology*; reviewer for the journals *Enzyme and Microbial Technology* and the *Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry*